+ ENGLISH

MOTHERBOARD
TECH BY VICE

# A Shitposting YouTuber Captured by the Taliban Was Just Freed

"Lord" Miles Routledge, a self-proclaimed "war tourist" from the U.K., was freed from Taliban captivity along with three other individuals.

Listen to this article now 4 min listen
00:00 1.0× -03:55
Powered by Trinity Audio

By Matthew Gault

October 10, 2023, 12:47pm

IMAGE: YOUTUBE / LORD MILES

The Taliban released four British nationals from captivity in Afghanistan, including edgelord shitposter "Lord" Miles Routledge. Routledge is infamous as a self-proclaimed "war tourist" who first gained notoriety when he barely escaped Afghanistan during the U.S. withdrawal in 2021.

The BBC broke the story of Routledge's release on October 10 and the U.K.'s home office confirmed it. Routledge was released alongside two unnamed British citizens and UN aid worker Kevin Cornwell, a 54-year-old man with health problems. "Mr Cornwell and the three other British Nationals which includes Miles Routledge have been released and have left Afghanistan," Scott Richards, the co-founder of The Presidium Network—a nonprofit that supported some of the captured people—said on Twitter. "They are coming home! Thank you to everyone for their support of these men during this difficult period. We are all relieved."

Lord Miles first went to Afghanistan in 2021 on what he claimed was the final tourist visa issued for the country before the Taliban reclaimed it. He filmed a few YouTube videos while he was there, fled, and then turned his experience into a

supposedly buying weapons in Kabul and hanging out with the Taliban. On January 11, officers of Taliban's General Directorate of Intelligence arrested Routledge and Cornwell.

After Lord Miles went into an Afghan prison, speculation about his condition spread on the internet. His Twitter account, @real_lord_miles, fueled the speculation with increasingly bizarre claims about Routledge's life behind bars, including that he lives in "luxury." The account claimed that the Taliban loved Miles, thought he was "goofy" and enjoyed his book.

Lord Miles
@real_lord_miles · Follow
On Lord Miles' current situation in Taliban "prison" and a rundown of events thus far that we are able to disclose.
12:40 PM · Sep 27, 2023
3.3K
Reply
Share
Read 339 replies

"The Taliban are happy with international business in their country so Miles has had regular picnics and dinners with higher ups discussing business plans and the

and is pulling off some stunts. At first, like all of you, I was worried he was struggling in some bad place but then he described how the Taliban like the *Titanic* movie and *Rambo* 3."

"If he wants eggs, his servants buy him eggs," the account continued. "If he doesn't like a dish, he gets pizza. When we called him he said 'lovely holiday.'" The account said Miles planned to write another book and open a gold mine in Afghanistan.

According to The Presidium Network, Cornwell didn't fare as well as Routledge. "[Cornwell remains seriously ill and he has been critically ill, and his condition has not improved," it said on Twitter, noting that another British man in custody was also seriously sick. "It is extremely likely both men will die in custody, the conditions they are kept in are nothing short of horrific and their current health and the high likelihood of death should be treated with concern by the international community."

According to @real_lord_miles, Routledge was aware of Cornwell's plight. "They met a few times in a hotel Miles frequented in Kabul," the account said. "We understand Kevin's kidney problems and Miles volunteers to give him a transplant whilst in Afghanistan if he is a match."

According to Richards, both Cornwell and Routledge are out of Afghanistan and on their way home to the U.K.

---

**TAGGED:** LORD MILES, AFGHANISTAN, TALIBAN, YOUTUBE

## ORIGINAL REPORTING ON EVERYTHING THAT MATTERS IN YOUR INBOX.

Your email address

Subscribe

By signing up, you agree to the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy & to receive electronic communications from Vice Media Group, which may include marketing promotions, advertisements and sponsored content.

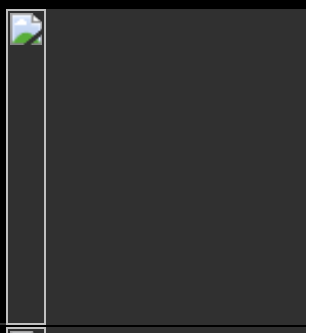
# MORE FROM VICE

Tech

### Study Featuring AI-Generated Giant Rat Penis Retracted, Journal Apologizes

JORDAN PEARSON

02.16.24

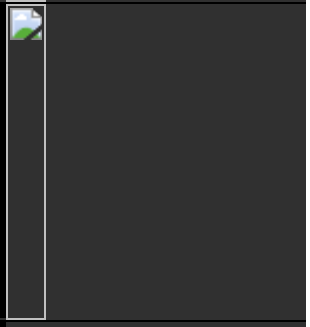


Tech

### Scientific Journal Publishes AI-Generated Rat with Gigantic Penis In Worrying Incident

JORDAN PEARSON

02.15.24



JULES ROSCOE

02.15.24

Tech

## Archaeologists Discovered a Massive Ancient 'Megastructure' Submerged Beneath the Sea

MIRJAM GUESGEN

02.14.24

Tech

## The First VR Squirting Video Shot Specifically for Apple Vision Pro Is Here

JULES ROSCOE

02.14.24

Tech

## Man Shot at by Cops Who Got Scared by an Acorn ‘Damaged for Life’

JORDAN PEARSON

02.14.24

ABOUT

JOBS

PARTNER

VICE VOICES

CONTENT FUNDING ON VICE

SECURITY POLICY

PRIVACY & TERMS

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

DO NOT SELL OR SHARE MY PERSONAL INFORMATION